



Mexico, and Pacific Ocean. (b) "U.S. Coral Reef Initiative" is an existing partnership between Federal agencies and State, territorial, commonwealth, and local governments, nongovernmental organizations, and commercial interests to design and implement additional management, education, monitoring, research, and restoration efforts to conserve coral reef ecosystems for the use and enjoyment of future generations. The existing U.S. Islands Coral Reef Initiative strategy covers approximately 95 percent of U.S. coral reef ecosystems and is a key element of the overall U.S. Coral Reef Initiative. (c) "International Coral Reef Initiative" is an existing partnership, founded by the United States in 1994, of governments, intergovernmental organizations, multilateral development banks, nongovernmental organizations, scientists, and the private sector whose purpose is to mobilize governments and other interested parties whose coordinated, vigorous, and effective actions are required to address the threats to the world's coral reefs.

Sec. 2. Policy. (a) All Federal agencies whose actions may affect U.S. coral reef ecosystems shall: (a) identify their actions that may affect U.S. coral reef ecosystems; (b) utilize their programs and authorities to protect and enhance the conditions of such ecosystems; and (c) to the extent permitted by law, ensure that any actions they authorize, fund, or carry out will not degrade the conditions of such ecosystems.

(b) Exceptions to this section may be allowed under terms prescribed by the heads of Federal agencies:

(1) during time of war or national emergency;

(2) when necessary for reasons of national security, as determined by the President;

(3) during emergencies posing an unacceptable threat to human health or safety or to the marine environment and admitting of no other feasible solution; or

(4) in any case that constitutes a danger to human life or a real threat to vessels, aircraft, platforms, or other man-made structures at sea, such as cases of force majeure caused by stress of weather or other act of God.

Sec. 3. Federal Agency Responsibilities. In furtherance of section 2 of this order, Federal agencies whose actions affect U.S. coral reef ecosystems, shall, subject to the availability of appropriations, provide for implementation of measures needed to research, monitor, manage, and restore affected ecosystems, including, but not limited to, measures reducing impacts from pollution, sedimentation, and fishing. To the extent not inconsistent with statutory responsibilities and procedures, these measures shall be developed in cooperation with the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force and fishery management councils and in consultation with affected States, territorial, commonwealth, tribal, and local government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, the scientific community, and commercial interests.

Sec. 4. U.S. Coral Reef Task Force. The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce, through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, shall co-chair a U.S. Coral Reef Task Force ("Task Force"), whose members shall include, but not be limited to, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Attorney General,

the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Transportation, the Director of the National Science Foundation, the Administrator of the Agency for International Development, and the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The Task Force shall oversee implementation of the policy and Federal agency responsibilities set forth in this order, and shall guide and support activities under the U.S. Coral Reef Initiative ("CRI"). All Federal agencies whose actions may affect U.S. coral reef ecosystems shall review their participation in the CRI and the strategies developed under it, including strategies and plans of State, territorial, commonwealth, and local governments, and, to the extent feasible, shall enhance Federal participation and support of such strategies and plans. The Task Force shall work in cooperation with State, territorial, commonwealth, and local government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, the scientific community, and commercial interests.

Sec. 5. Duties of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force. (a) Coral Reef Mapping and Monitoring. The Task Force, in cooperation with State, territory, commonwealth, and local government partners, shall coordinate a comprehensive program to map and monitor U.S. coral reefs. Such programs shall include, but not be limited to, territories and commonwealths, special marine protected areas such as National Marine Sanctuaries, National Estuarine Research Reserves, National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges, and other entities having significant coral reef resources. To the extent feasible, remote sensing capabilities shall be developed and applied to this program and local communities should be engaged in the design and conduct of programs.

(b) Research. The Task Force shall develop and implement, with the scientific community, research aimed at identifying the major causes and consequences of degradation of coral reef ecosystems. This research shall include fundamental scientific research to provide a sound framework for the restoration and conservation of coral reef ecosystems worldwide. To the extent feasible, existing and planned environmental monitoring and mapping programs should be linked with scientific research activities. This Executive order shall not interfere with the normal conduct of scientific studies on coral reef ecosystems.

(c) Conservation, Mitigation, and Restoration. The Task Force, in cooperation with State, territorial, commonwealth, and local government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, the scientific community and commercial interests, shall develop, recommend, and seek or secure implementation of measures necessary to reduce and mitigate coral reef ecosystem degradation and to restore damaged coral reefs. These measures shall include solutions to problems such as land-based sources of water pollution, sedimentation, detrimental alteration of salinity or temperature, over-fishing, over-use, collection of coral reef species, and direct destruction caused by activities such as recreational and commercial vessel traffic and treasure salvage. In developing these measures, the Task Force shall review existing legislation to determine whether additional legislation is necessary to complement the policy objectives of this order and shall recommend such legislation if appropriate. The Task Force shall further evaluate existing navigational aids, including charts, maps, day markers, and beacons to determine if the designation of the location of specific coral reefs should be enhanced through the use, revision, or improvement of such aids.





<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>Mexico, and Pacific Ocean. (b) &quot;U.S. Coral Reef =  
Initiative&quot; is an existing</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>partnership between Federal agencies and State, =  
territorial, commonwealth,</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>and local governments, nongovernmental =  
organizations, and commercial</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>interests to design and implement additional =  
management, education,</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>monitoring, research, and restoration efforts to =  
conserve coral reef</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>ecosystems for the use and enjoyment of future =  
generations. The existing</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>U.S. Islands Coral Reef Initiative strategy covers =  
approximately 95 percent</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>of U.S. coral reef ecosystems and is a key element =  
of the overall U.S. Coral</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>Reef Initiative. (c) &quot;International Coral Reef =  
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<P><FONT SIZE=3D2>(b) Exceptions to this section may be allowed under =  
terms prescribed by the</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>heads of Federal agencies:</FONT>  
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<P><FONT SIZE=3D2>(1) during time of war or national emergency;</FONT>  
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<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>President;</FONT>  
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<P><FONT SIZE=3D2>(3) during emergencies posing an unacceptable threat =  
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no other feasible</FONT>  
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<P><FONT SIZE=3D2>(4) in any case that constitutes a danger to human =  
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<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>vessels, aircraft, platforms, or other man-made =  
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<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>order, Federal agencies whose actions affect U.S. =  
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<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>shall, subject to the availability of =  
appropriations, provide for</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>implementation of measures needed to research, =  
monitor, manage, and restore</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>affected ecosystems, including, but not limited to, =  
measures reducing</FONT>  
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To the extent not</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>inconsistent with statutory responsibilities and =  
procedures, these measures</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>shall be developed in cooperation with the U.S. =  
Coral Reef Task Force and</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>fishery management councils and in consultation with =  
affected States,</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>territorial, commonwealth, tribal, and local =  
government agencies,</FONT>  
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community, and commercial</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>interests.</FONT>  
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<P><FONT SIZE=3D2>Sec. 4. U.S. Coral Reef Task Force. The Secretary of =  
the Interior and the</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>Secretary of Commerce, through the Administrator of =  
the National Oceanic and</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>Atmospheric Administration, shall co-chair a U.S. =  
Coral Reef Task Force</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>(&quot;Task Force&quot;), whose members shall =  
include, but not be limited to, the</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>Administrator of the Environmental Protection =  
Agency, the Attorney General,</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of =  
Agriculture, the Secretary</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>of Commerce, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary =  
of State, the Secretary</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>of Transportation, the Director of the National =  
Science Foundation, the</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>Administrator of the Agency for International =

Development, and the

<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space =  
Administration. The Task</FONT></P><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>Force shall oversee implementation of the policy and =  
Federal agency</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>responsibilities set forth in this order, and shall =  
guide and support</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>activities under the U.S. Coral Reef Initiative =  
(“CRI”). All Federal</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>agencies whose actions may affect U.S. coral reef =  
ecosystems shall review</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>their participation in the CRI and the strategies =  
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plans. The Task Force shall</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>work in cooperation with State, territorial, =  
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the scientific</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>community, and commercial interests.</FONT></P>

<P><FONT SIZE=3D2>Sec. 5. Duties of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force. (a) =  
Coral Reef Mapping and</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>Monitoring. The Task Force, in cooperation with =  
State, territory,</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>commonwealth, and local government partners, shall =  
coordinate a</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>comprehensive program to map and monitor U.S. coral =  
reefs. Such programs</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>shall include, but not be limited to, territories =  
and commonwealths, special</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>marine protected areas such as National Marine =  
Sanctuaries, National</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>Estuarine Research Reserves, National Parks, =  
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the design and conduct of</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>programs.</FONT></P>

<P><FONT SIZE=3D2>(b) Research. The Task Force shall develop and =  
implement, with the</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>scientific community, research aimed at identifying =  
the major causes and</FONT><BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>consequences of degradation of coral reef =  
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<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>restoration and conservation of coral reef =  
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<P><FONT SIZE=3D2>(c) Conservation, Mitigation, and Restoration. The =  
Task Force, in</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>cooperation with State, territorial, commonwealth, =  
and local government</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>agencies, nongovernmental organizations, the =  
scientific community and</FONT>  
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<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>traffic and treasure salvage. In developing these =  
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<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>shall review existing legislation to determine =  
whether additional</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>legislation is necessary to complement the policy =  
objectives of this order</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>and shall recommend such legislation if appropriate. =  
The Task Force shall</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>further evaluate existing navigational aids, =  
including charts, maps, day</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>markers, and beacons to determine if the designation =  
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<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>improvement of such aids.</FONT>  
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<P><FONT SIZE=3D2>(d) International Cooperation. The Secretary of State =  
and the Administrator</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>of the Agency for International Development, in =  
cooperation with other</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>members of the Coral Reef Task Force and drawing =  
upon their expertise, shall</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>assess the U.S. role in international trade and =  
protection of coral reef</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>species and implement appropriate strategies and =

actions to promote</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>conservation and sustainable use of coral reef =  
resources worldwide. Such</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>actions shall include expanded collaboration with =  
other International Coral</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>Reef Initiative (&quot;ICRI&quot;) partners, =  
especially governments, to implement the</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>ICRI through its Framework for Action and the Global =  
Coral Reef Monitoring</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>Network at regional, national, and local =  
levels.</FONT>  
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<P><FONT SIZE=3D2>Sec. 6. This order does not create any right or =  
benefit, substantive or</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>procedural, enforceable in law or equity by a party =  
against the United</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>States, its agencies, its officers, or any =  
person.</FONT>  
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<P><FONT SIZE=3D2>WILLIAM J. CLINTON</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>THE WHITE HOUSE,</FONT>  
<BR><FONT SIZE=3D2>June 11, 1998.</FONT>  
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